

REMARKS

Independent claims 1, 21, 41, and 44 have been amended to specifically require that the linking unit (bidirectional auxiliary channel or unidirectional main link in the case of claim 41) does not include a clock line. For example, claim 1 now recites:

“a linking unit coupling the transmitter unit and the receiver unit arranged to transfer a multimedia data packet stream formed of a number of multimedia data packets based upon the source packet data stream in accordance with a link rate that is independent of the native stream rate between the transmitter unit and the receiver unit comprising: a unidirectional main link arranged to carry the multimedia data packets from the transmitter unit to the receiver unit and a bi-directional auxiliary channel arranged to transfer information between the transmitter unit and the receiver unit and vice versa wherein **the linking unit does not include a clock line**”.

By amending independent claims to require that the linking unit not include a clock line, the double patenting rejection is believed to be moot.

The Applicants also believe that all pending claims are allowable over the cited reference (Wolf) since the cited reference specifically requires a clock line and therefore does not teach or suggest any of the pending claims.

Therefore, the Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable. Should the Examiner believe that a further telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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